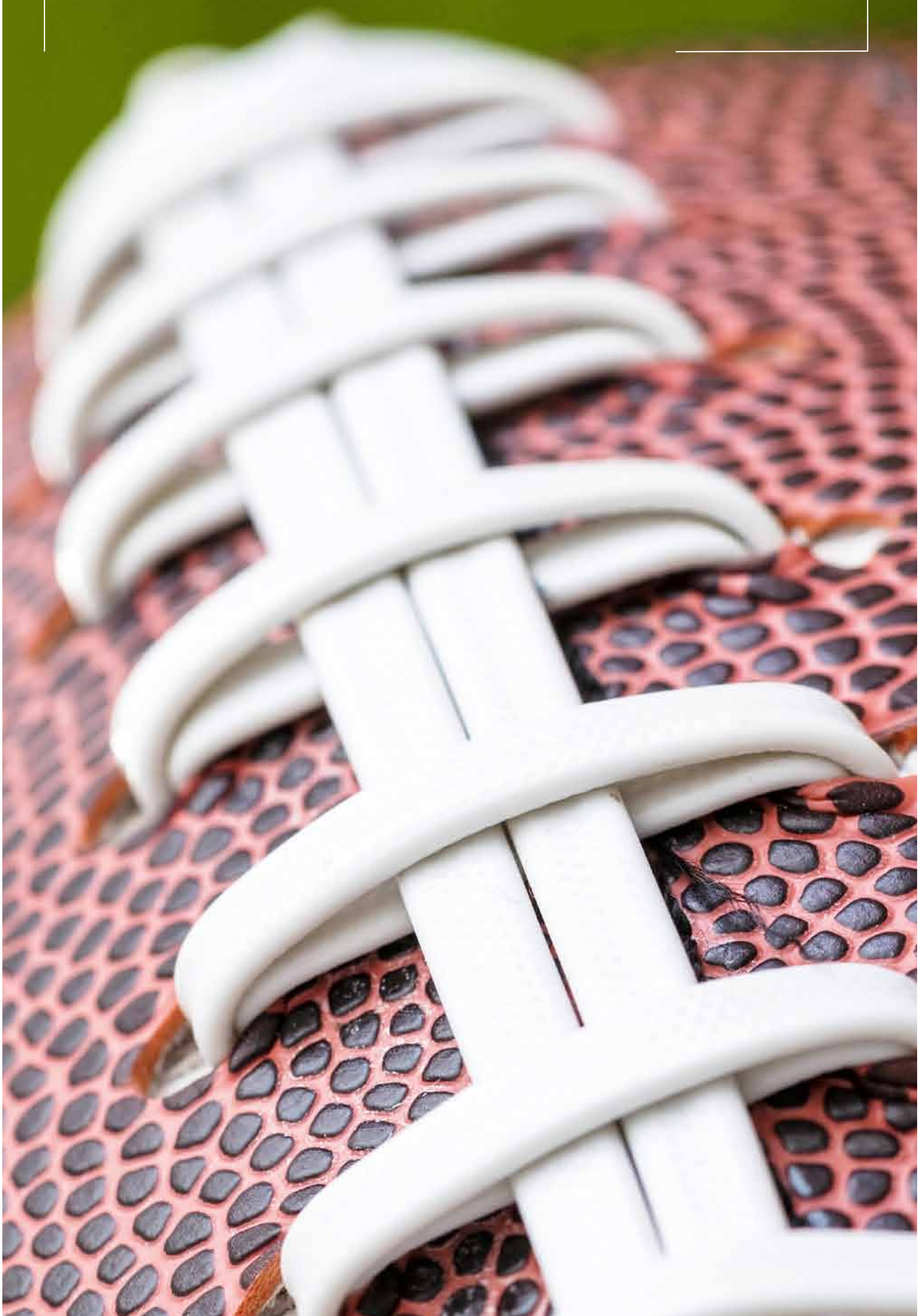


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# HUNT COUNTY FOOTBALL PREVIEW 2020

- ▶ CADDO MILLS FOXES
- ▶ QUINLAN FORD PANTHERS
- ▶ COMMERCE TIGERS
- ▶ LONE OAK BUFFALOES
- ▶ BOLES HORNETS
- ▶ CELESTE BLUE DEVILS
- ▶ WOLFE CITY WOLVES
- ▶ CUMBY TROJANS
- ▶ CAMPBELL INDIANS
- ▶ FANNINDEL FALCONS





# Staggered start leads to two sections

BY DAVID CLAYBOURN  
HERALD-BANNER SPORTS EDITOR

The only thing certain about the 2020 high school football season in Texas is that it's been uncertain.

Way back in March, when Texas high schools were extending their spring breaks and then having their campuses remain closed due to the coronavirus there was a big question floating around Texas high school football fans.

Will the football teams



DAVID CLAYBOURN  
Sports Views

get to play as scheduled in the fall?

Yes and no.

As of this writing, high school football is still on in Texas. But many teams have had to change their 2020 schedules and all have had to adapt to new guidelines required by the University Interscholastic League to keep the players, coaches, trainers, fans and anybody else connected to the teams as safe as possible.

Competing teams won't end the game with the traditional handshakes and all the fans in the stands will have to wear masks.

The Class 4A, 3A, 2A and A teams are to kick off their seasons this weekend though a couple of the local teams have had a change in their schedules and

won't start for another week or so. Most of the teams have been practicing since Aug. 3. Their playoffs will begin on Nov. 12-14 with the state championships planned for Dec. 16-19.

The Class 5A and 6A teams, including the Greenville Lions and Royse City Bulldogs, don't start practicing until Sept. 7. Their seasons don't start until Sept. 24-26. Their playoffs are to begin on Dec. 24 or Dec. 26 and the state championships are planned for Jan. 11.

The Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools also pushed back the start of practice and the season for teams like the Greenville Christian Eagles. The TAPPS teams aren't allowed to start practicing until Sept. 7, with

the first games allowed on Sept. 24 and the state championships scheduled for Dec. 11-12.

Because of the staggered start to the football season the *Herald-Banner* for the first time is featuring two high school football sections this fall. This first section will feature the Caddo Mills Foxes, Quinlan Ford Panthers, Commerce Tigers, Lone Oak Buffaloes, Boles Hornets, Celeste Blue Devils, Cumby Trojans, Wolfe City Wolves, Campbell Indians and Fannindel Falcons.

Another football section scheduled for September will feature the Greenville Lions, Royse City Bulldogs and Greenville Christian Eagles.

Several of the local teams, including Quin-

lan Ford, Cumby, Celeste and Wolfe City have changed their schedules. Ford lost one non-district opponent due to the pandemic and the Panthers are scheduled to play nine games in the regular season.

The Cumby ISD confirmed in a release that one student who was "lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 was present in the district in Cumby High School facilities on 08-07-2020." Individuals who were "determined to be in close contact with the infected individual" were contacted by telephone by the school nurse and were to remain off campus for two weeks. Thus the Trojans did not practice football for a couple of weeks and have called off several games, including those

involving Celeste and Wolfe City.

Will there be more changes ahead for Texas teams? Probably.

Will the football teams get to complete the playoff system and crown state champions, something the sports of soccer, golf, tennis, track and field, baseball and softball didn't get to do in the spring because of the pandemic? We'll see.

But Texans love their football and the state's student-athletes have shown an awful lot of resiliency through this pandemic. They are determined.

I wish good luck to all the local football teams and hope everybody will stay safe.

David Claybourn is sports editor of the Herald-Banner.



ED LOCKER STADIUM IN CADDO MILLS...Attending high school football games in Texas during the 2020 season will be a unique experience for the fans, who will be required to wear masks in accordance with University Interscholastic League guidelines that deal with the coronavirus pandemic. As per the UIL: "sites are encouraged to utilize remote ticketing options to help manage capacity limitations within a maximum 50% occupancy."

DAVID CLAYBOURN | HERALD-BANNER

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CONTACT US  
903-455-4220

Lisa Chappell, Publisher x345  
Dale Gosser, Editor x324  
David Claybourn, Sports editor x360  
Advertising x312  
Classifieds  
Circulation

lchappell@cnhi.com  
dgosser@heraldbanner.com  
dclaybourn@heraldbanner.com  
advertising@heraldbanner.com  
classifieds@heraldbanner.com  
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NEWSROOM CONTACTS

Dale Gosser, Editor x324  
David Claybourn, Sports Editor x360  
Brad Kellar x325  
Warren Morrison x326  
News Clerk x327

dgosser@heraldbanner.com  
dclaybourn@heraldbanner.com  
brad@heraldbanner.com  
wmorrison@heraldbanner.com  
newsclerk@heraldbanner.com

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# Campbell's expecting a 'solid season'



Campbell quarterback Xak Wylie flies up over the Fannindel defense in a 2019 game.

BY DAVID CLAYBOURN  
HERALD-BANNER SPORTS EDITOR

They played an independent six-man schedule last season. The Campbell Indians will return to district play this season with Jason Crow back as head coach. They'll be paired in District 10-A-I with 10-2 area finalist Union Hill, 7-2 Leverett's Chapel, 3-6 Fruitvale and 0-7 Savoy. Campbell went 3-5 last season under Crow, who said he's "expecting a solid season."

The Indians return 12 lettermen off the 2019 team including offensive starters Walt Aaron, Zach Thomas and Trey Huffhines. Aaron is back to lead the blocking for Thomas and Huffhines, two backs.



Aaron, Thomas, Huffhines and sophomore Rafio Rios were starters on defense last season. Crow lists the Indians' strengths as speed and youth. To be successful the Indians need to "avoid injuries" and have "young players step into their roles smoothly."

How does District 10-A-I look to Crow? "Union Hill opens as a top 10 team in the state," he said. "Leverett's Chapel and Fruitvale will be solid teams. Savoy is young and building."

As for dealing with the pandemic, "We were starting to build up our strength and conditioning before being shut down in March," said Crow. "We will have to work to build that back up when we return."

"Dave Campbell's Texas Football Magazine" picked the Indians to finish third in District 10-A-I behind Union Hill of Gilmer and Leverett's Chapel. Campbell was picked ahead of Fruitvale and Savoy.

Campbell Indians  
2020 Football Schedule

|          |                    |           |
|----------|--------------------|-----------|
| Aug. 27  | Forth Worth THESA  | 7:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 3  | Fannindel          | 7:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 10 | Tyler Heat         | 7:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 18 | at Saint Jo        | 7:30 p.m. |
| Sept. 25 | Plano CHANT        | 7:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 3   | at Trinidad        | 6:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 16  | *Fruitvale         | 7:00 p.m. |
| Oct. 23  | *at Union Hill     | 7:00 p.m. |
| Oct. 30  | *Leverett's Chapel | 7:00 p.m. |
| Nov. 6   | *at Savoy          | 7:00 p.m. |

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|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 8.28.2020<br>@ Leonard<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.04.2020<br>@ Paris Chisum<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.11.2020<br>Open | 9.18.2020<br>@ Blue Ridge<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.25.2020<br>Alba-Golden<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.2.2020<br>@ Rivercrest<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.9.2020<br>Honey Grove<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.16.2020<br>@ Como-Pickton<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.30.2020<br>Celeste<br>7:30 p.m. | 11.06.2020<br>@ Cooper<br>7:30 p.m. |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|



# Wolfe City Wolves

## No. 20 Wolfe City builds on tradition



LAURIE WHITE KING | HERALD-BANNER

Wolfe City's defense converges on this Tom Bean ball carrier during a 2018 game. The No. 20 state-ranked Wolves have gone 27-9 over the past three seasons for a winning percentage of .771. They went 8-3 in 2019, 10-2 in 2018 and 9-3 in 2017.

BY DAVID CLAYBOURN  
HERALD-BANNER SPORTS EDITOR

WOLFE CITY — Winning is getting to be a habit with the Wolfe City Wolves.

The Wolves have won eight or more games in each of the past three football seasons under head coach Darren Anderson. They went 8-3 in 2019, 10-2 in 2018 and 2017 in 9-3 for an overall record of 27-8 during that time period and a winning percentage of .771.

Anderson said the Wolves worked hard this summer while following the guidelines set by the University Interscholastic League due to the coronavirus pandemic.

“It’s really been the best summer we’ve had in terms of getting kids to work out,” said Anderson. “I’m proud of the kids. They don’t get caught up in all those things.”

Anderson said the

Wolves “are looking good” in practice.

“We’ve got 50 kids out, which we’re excited about,” he said. “We’ve got good depth in some key spots. We’re excited about the kids we’ve got.”

The Wolves also won 75 percent of their basketball games this past season, going 27-9 including a 100-50 bi-district playoff victory over Boles.

The Wolves’ track and field team’s 4x400-meter relay team finished fourth at the 2019 state meet and with all four members returning had very high hopes of moving up on the medal stand before the 2020 meet was called off due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Their recent success hasn’t gone unnoticed. “Dave Campbell’s Texas Football Magazine” ranked the Wolves No. 20 for Class 2A, Division I and also picked the Wolves to win the District 6-2A-I title

ahead of Rivercrest, Honey Grove, Alba-Golden, Cooper, Como-Pickton and Celeste.

Wolfe City lost some of its key players off last year’s 8-3 district tri-champs, including prolific rusher Dylan Wilson and all-district defensive end Dayton Smith.

But Wolfe City still brings back six starters and eight defensive regulars from the 2019 team that outscored opponents by an average margin of 31-17. The Wolves ended up sharing the District 6-2A-I title with Honey Grove and Rivercrest.

Quarterback Amarien Jones mixed the run with the pass last season, running for 714 yards and passing for 1,018.

Three of the Wolves’ top rushers return including Jaren Brummett, who dashed for 649 yards, Corey Vaughn (487) and Ben Cagle (326).

The Wolves will be counting on the blocking of Canyon Cooksey (5-10, 255) and Jasper Northcutt (6-1, 260).

Logan Lankford and Cole Salisbury are returning leaders off last year’s defense. Lankford racked up 87

tackles, while Salisbury recorded 78 stops and picked off three passes.

Vaughn also recorded 46 tackles from his linebacker spot and six sacks.

Other players to watch include linemen Jace Cagle, Randon Martin and Andy Medina, plus defensive

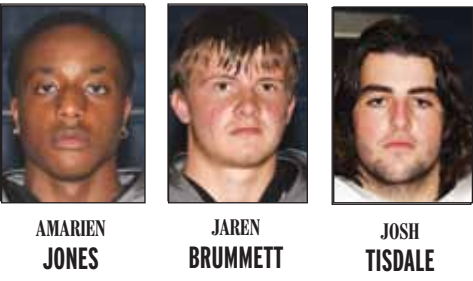
back Matthew Shiay and tight end-linebacker Josh Tisdale.

Anderson said the Wolves have dealt well with the Texas heat.

“Our kids, we just go out there and practice,” he said. “If it’s 100, it’s 100. If it’s 90, it’s 90. It’s about going out there and getting what we need done. It’s Texas.”

### SCOUTING REPORT

#### Wolfe City Wolves




DISTRICT: DISTRICT 6-2A-I  
2020 DISTRICT FINISH: T-FIRST  
2020 RECORD: 8-3  
RETURNING STARTERS: 0-6, D-8  
RETURNING LETTERMEN: 18  
OFFENSIVE SET: MULTIPLE  
DEFENSIVE SET: SPLIT  
HEAD COACH: DARREN ANDERSON

### How Texas Football sees it

- DISTRICT 6-2A-I PREDICTIONS  
From “Dave Campbell’s Texas Football 2020”
- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Wolfe City  | 5. Cooper       |
| 2. Rivercrest  | 6. Como-Pickton |
| 3. Honey Grove | 7. Celeste      |
| 4. Alba-Golden |                 |

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| 8.28.2020<br>@ Overton<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.04.2020<br>Como-Pickton<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.11.2020<br>@ Hawkins<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.18.2020<br>Celeste<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.9.2020<br>Cumby<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.16.2020<br>@ Simms Bowie<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.23.2020<br>Maud<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.30.2020<br>@ Detroit<br>7:30 p.m. | 11.06.2020<br>Clarksville<br>7:30 p.m. |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|



# Boles Hornets

## Hornets, Scribner look for success

BY DAVID CLAYBOURN  
HERALD-BANNER SPORTS EDITOR

Boles and second-year head coach Brad Scribner are hoping for more success on the football field this season.

Scribner took over at the helm of the Hornets after coaching as an assistant football coach at Caddo Mills, Lone Oak and Tom Bean, plus as a head basketball coach at Boles.

“We are young with a mixture,” Scribner said before the start of last season, noting that the Hornets’ roster included seven seniors.

The inexperience showed in spots the Hornets dropped two games in the win column to finish at 1-9.

They went 0-4 for the second straight season to trail the field in a tough District 6-A-I that included 11-2 Rivercrest, 10-2 Honey Grove, 8-3 Wolfe City and 4-7 Como-Pickton.

Boles has dropped down from Division I to II so the Hornets could find the going easier in District 9-2A-II. They’ll have to contend with 8-4 Cumby, 5-6 Clarksville, 4-7 James Bowie, 3-7 Maud and 7-5 Detroit.

Senior quarterback Santiago Sanjines has two seasons under his



TAMMY DICKESON

The Boles Hornets’ offensive line opens up some running room on this carry during a 2019 game against Wolfe City.



TAMMY DICKESON

Boles assistant coach Jawny Cannon talks to the Hornets during a 2019 game.

belt as a starting quarterback which should help. Sanjines passed for 800 yards and seven

touchdowns. Sanjines has plenty of familiar receivers to throw to in returning

wide receivers Preston Adams, Koen Goggans, Jayce Dickeson and Tyler Cummins.

The Hornets threw the football more last season than they have in past seasons. They switched from an option ground offense to a spread last season. “The kids are really buying into it,” said Scribner.

The Hornets averaged just 10.5 points per game in 2019 but gave

up an average of 39.1. Boles returns eight starters on a defense that might not be tested as much this season. Key names include Sanjines and Dickeson a at the linebackers, Dakoda Coleman, Caden Mize and Adams up front and Cummins and Goggans in the secondary.

### SCOUTING REPORT Boles Hornets



DISTRICT: DISTRICT 9-2A-II  
2020 DISTRICT FINISH: FIFTH  
2020 RECORD: 1-9  
RETURNING STARTERS: 0-7, D-8  
RETURNING LETTERMEN:  
OFFENSIVE SET: MULTIPLE  
DEFENSIVE SET: 4-3  
HEAD COACH: BRAD SCRIBNER

### How Texas Football sees it

DISTRICT 6-4A-II PREDICTIONS  
From “Dave Campbell’s Texas Football 2020”

- |                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| 1. Cumby       | 5. Detroit |
| 2. Clarksville | 6. Boles   |
| 3. Simms Bowie |            |
| 4. Maud        |            |


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|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|

Lone Oak Buffaloes

# Lone Oak seeks consistency in 2020



BUSTER CLEM

The Lone Oak Buffaloes are ready to take the field again in 2020, just like they did in 2019.

BY DAVID CLAYBOURN  
HERALD-BANNER SPORTS EDITOR

The 2019 football season didn't go as planned for the Lone Oak Buffaloes.

Hit hard by injuries, they started off the season 1-6.

New head football coach Vince Taylor then got reassigned mid-season to another position in the school district.

Varsity assistant coach Larry McFarlin was then promoted to become the acting head coach and finished out the season with the Buffaloes.

Lone Oak wound up the 2019 campaign with a 2-8 overall record and a 1-5 mark in District 5-3A-I to finish in sixth place.

McFarlin, who previously was a head coach at Howe and Bonham, returns as the Buffaloes' head coach along with three starters on offense and nine on defense as they hope to improve in the win column and District 7-3A-II standings

McFarlin said he's expecting an "outstand-



BUSTER CLEM

Lone Oak running back Mario Rincon, who earned all-district honors as a freshman, hopes to find lots of running room this season behind the blocking of Zach Isenberg (72).

ing season with great improvement."

Lone Oak has dropped from Division I to II in 3A and will now be paired in a district that will also be challenging. In place of a 15-1 Pottsboro team that was a 3A, Division I state runner-up, the Buffaloes will face a 15-1 Gunter team that won the 3A, Division II championship. Other teams in the district include 9-4 Bells,

6-5 Leonard, 7-5 Blue Ridge, 5-6 Whitewright and 1-9 S&S Consolidated.

Because of injuries, Lone Oak played four different quarterbacks last season.

McFarlin describes the district as "strong."

One of those quarterbacks is back: junior Jacob Jackson, who rushed for 120 yards and passed for 90. When not playing quarterback, Jackson caught 15

passes for 199 yards and a touchdown.




Lone Oak's second-leading rusher Mariano Rincon is back after running for 564 yards on 121 carries.

Two-way all-district lineman Zach Isenberg (6-4, 265) also returns to lead the offensive and defensive lines.

Offensive lineman Gage Mauch also eared all-district honors last season.

Other players to

SCOUTING REPORT  
Lone Oak Buffaloes



JACOB JACKSON      AUSTIN RAMM      ZACH ISENBERG

DISTRICT: DISTRICT 8-3A-II  
2020 DISTRICT FINISH: SIXTH  
2020 RECORD: 2-8  
RETURNING STARTERS: 0-3, D-9  
RETURNING LETTERMEN: 15  
OFFENSIVE SET: MULTIPLE  
DEFENSIVE SET: 50  
HEAD COACH: LARRY MCFARLIN

How Texas Football sees it

DISTRICT 8-3A-II PREDICTIONS  
From "Dave Campbell's Texas Football 2020"

1. Gunter  
2. Bells  
3. Leonard  
4. Blue Ridge

5. Whitewright  
6. Lone Oak  
7. S&S Consolidated



BUSTER CLEM

Austin Ramm tries to turn the corner with the football in a 2019 game for the Lone Oak Buffaloes.

watch include running back-linebacker Austin Ramm, running back-defensive back Adrian Gudgel, end Kam Robinson, linebacker Matthew Hitchcock, defensive back Kason Haynes, inebacker Jacky Jackson and lineman Gavin Neese.

McFarlin said the Buffaloes' strengths are "youth and brother-

hood."

He said the Buffaloes need "consistency on both sides of the ball" to be successful.

He also said the Buffaloes will need time to get their strength and conditioning back due to the coronavirus shutdown. He said the shutdown also "limited installation of a new offense and defense."



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# Fannindel Falcons hope to fly high

BY DAVID CLAYBOURN  
HERALD-BANNER SPORTS EDITOR

Usually when a football team only returns four starters on offense and defense that means the team will be young and inexperienced. Not so with the Fannindel Falcons in the sport of six-man. The Falcons will only have to replace two starters



on offense and defense lost to graduation. Two of the Fannindel returnees are big

playmakers: running back Contreal Judkins and quarterback Jabari Dowdy. Judkins led the Falcon rushers last season. Dowdy was a threat running and passing. Branden Dillehay and Tahj McGee give the Falcons two experienced blockers up front. Back to lead the de-

fense are end Jawaylon Shaw and defensive back Ivan Lopez. Fannindel went 3-6 last season, reaching the playoffs after finishing second to Forestburg in a three-team district. The Falcons will be paired again in District 10-A-II with Forestburg and Gold-Burg plus a traditionally strong

Trinidad team that went 4-7 and also made the playoffs last season. The Falcons have a reach tradition that includes a state championship in basketball in 1989 and state semi-final appearances in basketball in 1988 and football. “Dave Campbell’s Texas Football Magazine” picked the Fal-

cons to finish second in 10-A-II behind Trinidad and ahead of Forestburg and Gold-Burg.

| Fannindel Falcons 2020 football schedule |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| Aug. 28                                  | at Fruitvale7:30 p.m.      |
| Sept. 3                                  | at Campbell7:30 p.m.       |
| Sept. 11                                 | Leverett’s Chapel7:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 9                                   | Tyler Willow Bend7:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 23                                  | *Forestburg7:30 p.m.       |
| Oct. 30                                  | *Gold-Burg7:30 p.m.        |
| Nov. 6                                   | *Trinidad7:30 p.m.         |
| *District 10-A-II games                  |                            |



The Fannindel Falcons fly the American and Texas flags as they take the field during a 2019 home game at Bishop Field in Ladonia.



Fannindel quarterback Jabari Dowdy looks at pitching the ball during a 2019 game in Ladonia against Greenville Christian.



Fannindel defender Branden Dillehay pressures Greenville Christian quarterback Wilson Feezel.

## Greenville Christian Eagles



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| 8.28.2020<br>@Gainesville<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.04.2020<br>@Bullard<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.11.2020<br>Canton<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.18.2020<br>@Waxahachie Life<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.25.2020<br>Aubrey<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.09.2020<br>Sunnyvale<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.16.2020<br>Farmersville<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.23.2016<br>@Community<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.30.2020<br>Quinlan Ford<br>7:30 p.m. | 11.06.2020<br>@Wills Point<br>7:30 p.m. |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|



# Caddo Mills Foxes

## No. 24 Foxes expect to be ‘improved’

BY DAVID CLAYBOURN  
HERALD-BANNER SPORTS EDITOR

CADDO MILLS — An 8-3 record in 2019 and the return of quarterback Tyler Townley have helped the Caddo Mills Foxes earn a pre-season state ranking.

The Foxes, who were second to Sunnyvale in District 5-4A-II last year with a 4-1 record, claimed a No. 24 state ranking in “Dave Campbell’s Texas Football Magazine.”

“We fully expect to be improved over last year’s team,” said Kodi Crane, who returns for his second season as the Foxes’ head coach.

Crane said the team’s strength is a “large senior class that has a lot of Friday night experience.”

The head of the class is Townley, the senior quarterback who was 163-of-246 passing last season for 2,647 yards and 24 touchdowns and ran for 737 and 15 scores on 109 carries.

Senior running back Savion Neal is also back after rushing for a team-high 1,084 yards and 13 TDs on 134 carries. Neal so caught six passes for 60 yards and another score.

The Foxes’ top two receivers are back in Gavyn Beane (52-



DAVID CLAYBOURN | HERALD-BANNER

Jason Thomason catches the football during a Caddo Mills practice. Thomason played quarterback and wide receiver for the Foxes last season.

782 yards, 7 TDs) and Cayden Davis (26-520, 5 TDs.).

Jason Thomason appeared in nine games for the Foxes in 2019, going 5-of-8 passing for 71 yards and a TD and rushing for 54 yards on just six carries.

Jake Tumey, another savvy veteran, caught 18 passes for 246 yards and three TDs.

Three starting linemen give the Foxes even more veteran experience: tackles Jacob Hall (6-1, 245) and Jackson

Jacobs (6-2, 230) and center Dylan Sides (6-0, 251).

Linebacker Braydon Brewer, end Bryan Jones and stong safety Angus Aldridge will again lead the Foxes’ defense. Brewer was one of the Foxes’ leading tacklers last season while Jones was a force rushing the quarterback and Aldridge led in interceptions.

Konner Pounds and Thomason also return at safety, while tackle Sean Newark (5-9, 210)

and end Sammy Bustillos (5-8, 170) are also key defenders.

Crane predicts that the Foxes’ new District 6-4A-II will be stronger than the last district.

“Sunnyvale was last year’s champion, Community is bringing back most of their starters, Wills Point was a playoff team last year, Ford is dropping down from 4A D1 and Farmersville will be much improved,” he said.

Crane said the Foxes will need to “stay health

### SCOUTING REPORT Caddo Mills Foxes



TYLER  
TOWNLEY



SAVION  
NEAL



GAVYN  
BEANE

DISTRICT: DISTRICT 6-4A-II  
2020 DISTRICT FINISH: SECOND  
2020 RECORD: 8-3  
RETURNING STARTERS: 0-8, D-7  
RETURNING LETTERMEN: 12  
OFFENSIVE SET: SPREAD  
DEFENSIVE SET: 4-2-5  
HEAD COACH: KODI CRANE

### How Texas Football sees it

DISTRICT 6-4A-II PREDICTIONS  
From “Dave Campbell’s Texas Football 2020”

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Sunnyvale        | 5. Quinlan Ford |
| 2. Caddo Mills      | 6. Farmersville |
| 3. Nevada Community |                 |
| 4. Wills Point      |                 |

and improve through a really tough non-district schedule” if they are to be successful.

They’re scheduled to open on Aug. 28 against former state champion Gainesville, then will face Bullard, Canton, Waxahachie Life and Aubrey for homecoming before opening district on Oct. 9 against the favorite: Sunnyvale.

Nine of the Foxes’ 10

opponents made the playoffs last year led by 12-1 Sunnyvale. The Foxes’ opponents went 54-58 last season for a .482 winning percentage.

As for the coronavirus pandemic, “It has affected all of our players differently, but since summer workouts have began all of them have come back hungry ready to go,” said Crane.



DAVID CLAYBOURN | HERALD-BANNER

Caddo Mills assistant coach Jeremy Coe wears a mask as he conducts a defensive drill during a Fox preseason practice.



DAVID CLAYBOURN | HERALD-BANNER

Caddo Mills quarterback Tyler Townley keeps an eye on the football on this pass during a preseason practice.

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| 8.28.2020<br>Whitney<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.04.2020<br>Blue Ridge<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.11.2020<br>@ Ferris<br>7:30 p.m. | Bye | 10.02.2020<br>Dallas Roosevelt<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.09.2020<br>@ Farmersville<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.16.2020<br>@ Wills Point<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.23.2020<br>Sunnyvale<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.30.2020<br>@ Caddo Mills<br>7:30 p.m. | 11.06.2020<br>Community<br>7:30 p.m. |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|



# Quinlan Ford Panthers

## Quinlan Ford faces new challenges

BY DAVID CLAYBOURN  
HERALD-BANNER SPORTS EDITOR

QUINLAN — Dropping down from Division I to II in Class 4A should help the Quinlan Ford Panthers this season. That’s the word from Panther head coach Todd Wallace. “We are excited to drop down in division,” said Wallace. “Our skill kids and linebackers are the best we have had at least since 2012.

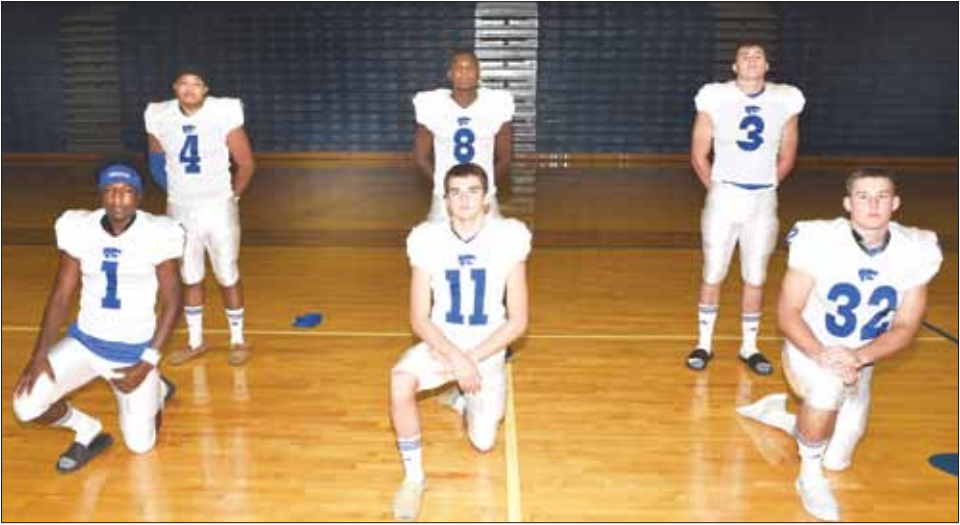
“We don’t have much size. We don’t have many numbers.”

Though the Panthers went 4-6 last season they didn’t win a game in the tough District 9-4A-I, finishing behind Crandall, Midlothian Heritage, Life Waxahachie, Athens and Mabank. All five of those teams finished with winning records led by Crandall at 10-3.

Now the Panthers will be paired in District 6-4A-II against the likes of Sunnyvale, Caddo Mills, Wills Point, Farmersville and Community. Still no easy district schedule.

“Sunnyvale is (the) clear favorite,” said Wallace. “I feel everyone else will be very close and competitive.”

Quarterback Eli Chambers, a 6-2, 210-pound senior, is back to lead the Ford offense after



DAVID CLAYBOURN | HERALD-BANNER

The Quinlan Ford Panthers are looking for big plays from these six players on offense during the upcoming 2020 football season. The players include running back Ja’Donavan Williams (1), quarterback Rowdy Rowan (11), running back Kaiden Roden (32), running back Marquizz Graham (4), quarterback Eli Chambers (8) and tight Colt Cooper (3).

throwing for 671 yards and six touchdowns last season while rushing for 253 yards and three more scores.

Chambers’ numbers would have been higher but he missed three games due to injuries.

Chambers is a four-year starter who has also played running back. He was a freshman on the varsity at running back, then he played both running back and quarterback as a sophomore. Last year he focused on quarterback.

“Our goal is to win district,” said Chambers. “Make the playoffs and go as far as possible.”

Chambers said the

Panthers are a close team.

“We’re probably the closest team I’ve been on,” he said.

“I love being with the team. I love competition. I think it (football) shows the ultimate amount of toughness.”

Running back Marquizz Graham also returns to the offense along with all-district tight end Colt Cooper. Graham ran for 355 yards and three TDs. Cooper averaged 32 yards per catch, scoring on four receptions.

Cooper has verbally committed to play football at Abilene Christian. He said he’s being

recruited as a tight end.

“I want to win district and get a gold ball for our school this year,” he said. “Win a playoff game.”

Cooper agreed with Chambers about how close the team is.

“We’re as close as I’ve ever been for a team in my entire life,” he said.

Other top returnees on offense include full-back Kaiden Roden (6-0, 205, Jr.), center Adrian Alaniz (5-7, 210, Sr.) and tackle Anthony Penas (5-9, 310, Sr.).

Cooper, who earned all-district honors at linebacker, leads a Panther defense that

### SCOUTING REPORT Quinlan Ford Panthers



COLT  
COOPER



ELI  
CHAMBERS



KAIDEN  
RODEN

DISTRICT: DISTRICT 6-4A-II  
2020 DISTRICT FINISH: SIXTH  
2020 RECORD: 4-6

RETURNING STARTERS: 0-5, D-5

RETURNING LETTERMEN: 12

OFFENSIVE SET: FLY-T

DEFENSIVE SET: SPLIT

HEAD COACH: TODD WALLACE

### How Texas Football sees it

DISTRICT 6-4A-II PREDICTIONS  
From “Dave Campbell’s Texas Football 2020”

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Sunnyvale        | 5. Quinlan Ford |
| 2. Caddo Mills      | 6. Farmersville |
| 3. Nevada Community |                 |
| 4. Wills Point      |                 |

returns four starters. Cooper rang up 120 tackles last season.

Roden also returns at linebacker, where he recorded 89 tackles with 12 tackles for losses.

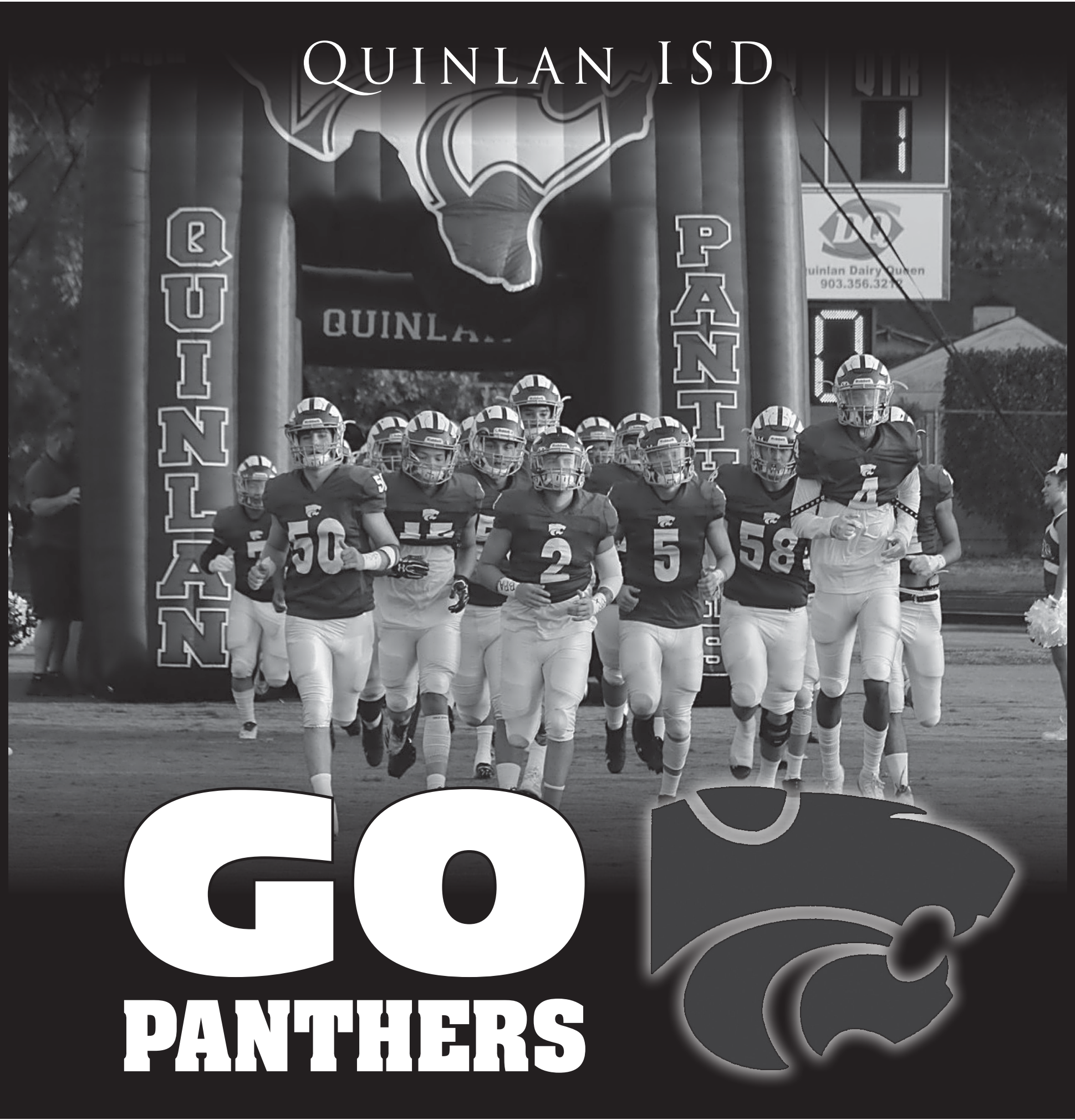
Defensive lineman Justin Gray (5-10, 180, Sr.) is another veteran.

The Panthers also expect to count on returning lettermen

Rowdy Rowan, Cyrus Adair (DL) and Santiago Salinas.

Wallace said the Panthers’ offense and the defensive secondary “have to develop quickly” for the Panthers to be successful.

“This is always true, but especially for us, we have to stay healthy due to lack of depth,” he said.





|   |   |  |   |                                   |                                    |                                   |  |  |                                    |
|---|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|
| 8.28.2020<br>Quitman, ccl.<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.04.2020<br>@ Celeste, ccl.<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.11.2020<br>@ Wolfe City, ccl.<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.18.2020<br>@ Alba-Golden<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.25.2020<br>Trenton<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.09.2020<br>@ Boles<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.16.2020<br>@ Maud<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.23.2020<br>Clarksville<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.30.2020<br>@ Simms Bowie<br>7:30 p.m. | 11.06.2020<br>Detroit<br>7:30 p.m. |
|---|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|



# Cumby Trojans



Cumby senior quarterback Cameron Scott runs the ball for Cumby during a 2019 game. The four-year starter will be hard to replace.

ROBIN WHEAT

## New head coach Boles to direct Cumby Trojans

BY DAVID CLAYBOURN  
HERALD-BANNER SPORTS EDITOR

CUMBY — New head coach Charles Boles wants to continue the recent success of the Cumby Trojans. Boles, who previously coached at Miles in West Texas, is taking over a Cumby program that made five playoff trips in seven seasons under previous head

coach Tom Dracos, who is now an assistant at Class 4A Cuero. Dracos coached the 2019 Trojans (8-4), 2018 Trojans (5-6), 2017 Trojans (7-5), 2016 Trojans (9-3) and 2014 Trojans (6-5) to playoff trips. The 2019, 2017 and 2016 Trojans were bi-district champions. “We hope to have a successful season,” said Boles, who guided

Miles to back to back 7-4 seasons. Miles has also coached at Lindsay, where he guided the Knights to a 45-23 record in six seasons, going 10-3 in 2017 and advancing to the third round of the playoffs. The Trojans return five starters on offense and five on defense from the 2019 team that whipped James Bowie

50-28 in the bi-district round of the playoffs before falling 54-22 to Grapeland at area. Boles listed the Trojans’ strength as “returning starters at skill positions.” Though all-district quarterback Cameron Scott graduated, the Trojans return junior running back Jacob DeMidio on offense, plus junior wide receiver

er Fabian Camargo and senior wide receiver Antonio Arellano. Center Jacob Groves (5-10, 185, Jr.) and junior guard Tristan Arbogast (5-10, 205, Sr.) are two more hold-overs on the offensive side though Boles said the Trojans must overcome and “inexperience O-line” to be successful. Cumby’s defense can count on veteran linebackers Logan Butler and Colten Lindsey, plus end Aiden Wenrick (6-1, 205, So.), safety Justin DeMidio and Emerson Umana at defensive back. Sophomore quarter-

back Trenton Wood is another returning letterman. Boles said the Trojans need to be “injury free” if they are to reach their goals. He said Clarksville and Detroit are two teams to watch in Cumby’s new District 9-2A-II. “Dave Campbell’s Texas Football” picked Cumby to win the district, followed by Clarksville, James Bowie, Maud, Detroit and Boles. The coronavirus pandemic has caused the Trojans to miss practice time and call off the first three games of the season.

### SCOUTING REPORT Cumby Trojans



JACOB DEMIDIO      JUSTIN DEMIDIO      JACOB GROVES

DISTRICT: DISTRICT 9-2A-II  
2020 DISTRICT FINISH: SECOND  
2020 RECORD: 8-4  
RETURNING STARTERS: 0-5, D-5  
RETURNING LETTERMEN: 23  
OFFENSIVE SET: SPREAD  
DEFENSIVE SET: MULTIPLE 3-4  
HEAD COACH: CHARLES BOLES

### How Texas Football sees it

DISTRICT 6-4A-II PREDICTIONS  
From “Dave Campbell’s Texas Football 2020”

1. Cumby

2. Clarksville

3. Simms Bowie

4. Maud
5. Detroit

6. Boles

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| 8.28.2020<br>Edgewood<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.04.2020<br>Leonard<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.11.2020<br>@ Lone Oak<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.25.2020<br>@ Bonham<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.2.2020<br>Mount Vernon<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.9.2020<br>@ Pottsboro<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.16.2020<br>Howe<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.23.2020<br>@ Emory Rains<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.30.2020<br>@ Winnsboro<br>7:30 p.m. | 11.06.2020<br>Mineola<br>7:30 p.m. |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|



# Commerce Tigers

## McSheffery moves up to coach Tigers

BY DAVID CLAYBOURN  
HERALD-BANNER SPORTS EDITOR

COMMERCE — John McSheffery may be the new head football coach at Commerce but he's not new to the Tigers. McSheffery was promoted to head coach after spending three seasons with the Tigers as a defensive coordinator. McSheffery, who played on a 2008 state championship team at Sulphur Springs, made a Texas 40 Under 40 list compiled by "Dave Campbell's Texas Football Magazine" of the best young coaches in the Lone Star State. He's taking over the head position from Cody Farrell, who left to become an athletic director in his hometown of Hallsville.

"What I told the kids is Cody Farrell did an amazing job," said McSheffery. "He had the program going in the right direction. We'll just build on top of that. We were doing things the right way." McSheffery's not the only familiar face at Commerce. The Tigers return seven offensive and seven defensive starters off a 4-7 play-off team. The Tigers improved three games in the win column from the previous season. "We have a veteran group that has seen a lot of action on Friday nights," said McSheffery. "The team will focus on three things: discipline, effort and



LAURIE WHITE KING | HERALD-BANNER

The Commerce Tigers' defense flies to the football to force a fumble against Leonard in a 2019 game.

work. We have student-athletes who understand the time and effort it takes to be great. We have a staff who is excited and ready to invest in these guys on and off the field to help them become successful young men." Starting quarterback J'Den Wilson returns to the offense, plus the Tigers' top two rushers Xzayveion Basham and Dayton Dunbar from 2019, along with receivers Ashton Seale and Ty Hoffman and offensive linemen Noah Howell,

Roy Gaffney and Everett Stapleton. Commerce's returning defensive veterans include Wilson, leading tackler Wade Nicholson Da'Shawn Jackson and Ashton Seale in the secondary and Henry Serrano and Corjohtna Dunbar on the defensive line. "We have many seniors who have been on varsity since their sophomore year," said McSheffery. "I expect them to lead by example and to have a successful season that continues

further than the regular season." The Tigers will be battling for another playoff spot in what appears to be a very tough District 5-3A-I. "We have an eight-team district that holds some of the best teams in not just the region, but the state," said McSheffery. Pottsboro was a 15-1 state runner-up last season and is ranked No. 3 in the state by "Dave Campbell's Texas Football Magazine." Winnsboro (8-5),

Emory Rains (6-5) and Mount Vernon (8-3) were playoff teams last season and Mineola went 5-5. Rounding out the district are 3-7 Howe and 1-9 Bonham. "On and off the field, we need to be disciplined with our spiritual, mental and physical well-being," said McSheffery. "The second thing that takes zero athletic ability, but must have the mindset is effort. I'm always wanting maximum effort. The last thing is work. The saying you will always hear me say is 'find work.' When the

opportunity presents itself, we need to get to work and not waste time." He said the pandemic has affected the team. "The pandemic caused student-athletes to get out of shape to a certain degree. It took away the ability to have skill specific instruction the last few months of school. However, the most important thing it took away was the momentum we had going in the weight room, on the track and on the baseball field. We were having a lot of gains and success."

### SCOUTING REPORT Commerce Tigers



ZAY BASHAM      GAUGE ELLIOTT      NOAH HOWELL

DISTRICT: DISTRICT 5-3A-I  
2020 DISTRICT FINISH: FOURTH  
2020 RECORD: 4-7  
RETURNING STARTERS: 0-7, D-7  
RETURNING LETTERMEN: 17  
OFFENSIVE SET: SPREAD  
DEFENSIVE SET: 4-2-5  
HEAD COACH: JOHN MCSHEFFERY

### How Texas Football sees it

DISTRICT 5-3A-I PREDICTIONS  
From "Dave Campbell's Texas Football 2020"

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Pottsboro    | 5. Emory Rains |
| 2. Winnsboro    | 6. Commerce    |
| 3. Mineola      | 7. Howe        |
| 4. Mount Vernon | 8. Bonham      |



Commerce running back Zay Basham cuts back across the grain as he tries to avoid four Rains defenders in a Tiger game in 2019.

LAURIE WHITE KING | HERALD-BANNER

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|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 8.28.2020<br>BYE | 9.04.2020<br>vs. Quanah<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.11.2020<br>Whitewright<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.18.2020<br>@ Boles<br>7:30 p.m. | 9.25.2020<br>Cooper<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.2.2020<br>@ Alba-Golden<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.9.2020<br>Rivercrest<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.16.2020<br>@ Honey Grove<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.23.2020<br>Como-Pickton<br>7:30 p.m. | 10.30.2020<br>@ Wolfe City<br>7:30 p.m. |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|



# Celeste Blue Devils

## Celeste hopes to rebound

BY DAVID CLAYBOURN  
HERALD-BANNER SPORTS EDITOR

CELESTE — After going 10-2 and 11-2 in back-to-back football seasons, the Celeste Blue Devils dropped back in the win column in 2019.

They finished at 2-8 for the season and 1-3 in District 5-2A-II play, missing out on a trip to the playoffs.

“The Blue Devils got hit hard,” Celeste coach Demetrius Rector said before the 2019 season started, talking about the 16 talented seniors they had lost to graduation.

That 11-2 team had won bi-district and area titles before falling 61-56 to San Saba in a three-overtime classic in the third round.

The 2019 Blue Devils lost their leading passer (Jalen Rector), leading rusher (Kaden Douglas) and three of their top receivers, Jace Givens, Isaiah Buckley and Truitt Murphy to graduation.

Those holes were so big to fill that last year’s Blue Devils averaged only 13.6 points and 217.3 yards per game after averaging 40.6 points and 402.6 yards per game in 2018.

But the good news for the 2020 Blue Devils is



Holden Lamm holds the ball on the kick for Celeste placekicker Thomas Powell during a Blue Devil preseason practice.

that this year’s team won’t be so inexperienced. They’re returning all but one starter on offense and 10 on defense.

“We’re energized,” Rector about the Blue Devils’ practices in preparation for the 2020 season. “Obviously what we’ve been going through, they’ve been biting at the bit to get back to some normalcy.” Quarterback Thomas Powell returns to lead the offense. Powell was 48-of-125 passing for 731 yards and a pair of touchdowns last season. He also led the Blue Devil rushers with 595 yards and six TDs on 131 carries.

“He does a lot of the

kicking for us,” said Rector.

Celeste’s second-leading rusher, Bryce Jurca, graduated but they return their third-leading rusher Damon Crook, who ran for 250 yards and three TDs on 42 carries though missing seven games.

Their top receiver in 2019, Malachi Buckley, was a senior but they return Ky Jackson (11 catches, 135 yards), Tyson Fielden (10-230 yards) and Holden Lamm (10-39, 1 TD).

The Blue Devils’ leading tackler is back on defense: linebacker Thadeus Clark, who averaged 10.5 tackles per game, including 6.9 solos.

Defensive back Seth Buckley recorded 46 stops in 2019, including 28 solos.

Linebacker Brody Pryor rang up 40 tackles Lamm recorded 32 stops and intercepted to passes.

Fielden managed 21 tackles and returned an interception 44 yards for a touchdown.

Powell, who booted 16-of-17 extra-point conversions, will lead Celeste’s special teams.

Celeste finished behind powerhouse Valley View, Tom Bean and Collinsville in the District 5-2A-I standings last season though beating Tom Bean.

Celeste will have to contend with 8-3 Wolfe

### SCOUTING REPORT

#### Celeste Blue Devils



SETH BUCKLEY  
THADEUS CLARK  
HOLDEN LAMM

DISTRICT: DISTRICT 6-2A-I  
2020 DISTRICT FINISH: T-FOURTH  
2020 RECORD: 2-8  
RETURNING STARTERS: 0-10, D-9  
RETURNING LETTERMEN: 13  
OFFENSIVE SET: SPREAD  
DEFENSIVE SET: 4-3  
HEAD COACH: DEMETRIUS RECTOR

### How Texas Football sees it

DISTRICT 6-2A-I PREDICTIONS  
From “Dave Campbell’s Texas Football 2020”

1. Wolfe City

2. Rivercrest

3. Honey Grove

4. Alba-Golden
5. Cooper

6. Como-Pickton

7. Celeste

City, 11-2 Rivercrest, 10-2 Honey Grove, 3-7 Alba-Golden, 3-7 Cooper and 4-7 Como-Pickton in the new District 6-2A-I. “Dave Campbell’s Texas Football Magazine” picked Wolfe City to win the district title with the Blue Devils finishing seventh.

“We’re not very big,” Rector said of the team’s size. “Our numbers are decent. We’ll carry 20 on the varsity and 16-17 on the junior varsity. We still lack linemen. I’ve been talking to other coaches and that’s the deal (not enough linemen).

“The attitudes have been great...”

Reece Wade, a 6-2,

260-pound senior lineman, “will lead us up front,” according to Rector.

Celeste’s first two scheduled games were canceled due to complications caused by the pandemic. The Blue Devils were to open up with Dallas A+ Academy and then play Cumby. Dallas A+ and other Dallas-based schools got a late start due to the pandemic and Cumby’s Trojans took a couple of weeks off from practicing because of the pandemic and canceled their first three games.

Celeste replaced Cumby with Quanah on Sept. 4 in Wichita Falls.



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